

*HSFN Support Group (from page 14)*

The March 2004 HSF NSG's focus was directed toward integrated networks support of NASA HQ's HEDS Enterprise (Code M) Return To Flight (RTF) activities.



The primary goal of the HSF NSG is to provide an integrated approach to highly reliable, top-quality network services to HSF missions. The NSG provides the forum for comprehensive review of previous missions, engineering and operation issues, long-term planning, policy, and requirements, with participation from a variety of HSF organizations, including the International Space Station Program and Space Shuttle Program. Specific objectives of the NSG include performance assessment of the various HSF support entities during pre-mission, mission, and post-mission support phases. The NSG will engage in planning, establishing, and/or influencing the operations philosophy of HSF networks support via discussion and subsequent agreement among representatives during working group sessions.

While the main HSF NSG meeting occurred on March 24<sup>th</sup>, various splinter group meetings were convened during the previous three days to address and/or review the status of the following:

- Very High Frequency (VHF) services for the ISS and Soyuz spacecraft
- HSF Network Operations Directive (document review)
- Space Shuttle External Tank (ET) Television (TV) Requirement
- HEDS Communications Working Group
- Launch Simulation Review

- Contingency Ultra High Frequency (UHF) Communications Support (to examine what options may exist to maximize the possibility of establishing UHF communication with the Orbiter in the event of an S-band Air-to-Ground [A/G] failure)
- White Sands Space Harbor (WSSH) Capabilities
- ISS TDRSS Scheduling during Contingency Operations
- Air Force Satellite Control Network (AFSCN) Remote Tracking Station (RTS) Support
- New/Potential Requirements for RTF
- Automated Support Requirements System (ASRS) Web-based Requirements System

Over 100 civil servants and contractor personnel attended the March 2004 HSF NSG. Individuals recognized for significant accomplishment, expertise, and support provided to the HSF Program included Gary A. Morse of JSC's Space Communications Integration Office (who has accepted a position with NASA Headquarters); Dave Simonson from the 45<sup>th</sup> Space Wing/Eastern Range (who announced his impending retirement); and John Smith of Booz-Allen & Hamilton (BAH), formerly on the CSOC contract but recently moved to the CCO's Special Projects and Missions. The next meeting is tentatively planned for the week of September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2004.



For more information on the HSF NSG, contact James Bangerter at 301.286.7306 (e-mail: [James.A.Bangerter@nasa.gov](mailto:James.A.Bangerter@nasa.gov)) or visit the HSF NSG web page at <http://msp.gsfc.nasa.gov/hsfnsg>.

**By Jim Bangerter**